

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 INR-05

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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7685

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T MONTEVIDEO 3372

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PE, UY

SUBJ: PRESIDENT VELASCO'S ACCUSATIONS

REF: LIMA 9711, MVD 3357, STATE 252481 AND 252482

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS

1. I AGREE WITH AMBASSADOR DEAN, LIMA 9711, THAT CLEAR STATEMENT OUT OF WASHINGTON AS TO THE ISSUES RAISED IN PRESIDENT VELASCO'S CHARGES WOULD BE VERY MUCH IN ORDER. ALTHOUGH I REGRET HIS ESTIMATE THAT GOP IS UNLIKELY TO TAKE ANY CORRECTIVE ACTION, I DO HOPE THE DEPARTMENT WILL SEE TO IT THAT VELASCO'S UNFORTUNATE CONFUSION OF MY NAME WITH AN INCIDENT WHICH HAPPENED MONTHS AFTER MY DEPARTURE IN WHICH, HOWEVER UNJUSTIFIED, THE DEPARTURE OF FOUR NAMED OFFICERS (NOT INCLUDING ME) WAS IN FACT MADE, WILL BE CORRECTED. THERE CAN BE NO DISPUTE ABOUT THIS SINCE THE GOP'S OWN RECORDS WILL SHOW HIS ERROR IN THIS REGARD. IT MIGHT ALSO BE SUGGESTED TO DE LA FLOR AND VELASCO THAT THE UNFOUNDED CHARGES COULD HAVE SECURITY IMPLICATIONS FOR ME AND MY FAMILY AS THE CHIEF OF STATE OF A FRIENDLY COUNTRY HAS NOW LENT CREDENCE TO CHARGES OF CIA AFFILIATIONS BY STATING INCORRECTLY THAT I HAD BEEN EXPELLED FROM PERU. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE SUCH CHARGES WERE REVIVED BRIEFLY PRIOR TO MY COMING TO URUGUAY. THERE IS IN THIS COUNTRY THE KIND OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION WHICH MIGHT BE GIVEN MOTIVATION BY VELASCO'S APPARENT AUTHENTICATION OF WHAT THEY MAY BE DISPOSED TO BELIEVE

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IN ANY CASE.

2. I REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S AUTHORIZATION TO INCLUDE IN THE TRUE FACTS ABOUT MY DEPARTURE FROM PERU, WHICH I INTEND TO PROVIDE TO THE GOU AS INDICATED IN LAST PARA OF MVD 3357, THE SAME DIRECT AND UNEQUIVOCAL STATEMENT THAT I HAVE NEVER HAD ANY PAST OR PRESENT CONNECTION WITH THE CIA WHICH AMBASSADOR DEAN WAS INSTRUCTED TO TELL GOP (STATE 252482).

3. I BELIEVE MR. ORTIZ' CASE, IN VIEW OF HIS PAST AND PRESENT ASSOCIATION WITH URUGUAYAN AFFAIRS AND HIS MANY FRIENDS IN THE GOVERNMENT, MUST BE DEALT WITH AS WELL ON A FORMAL BASIS HERE. HOWEVER, I PROPOSE THAT IT BE HANDLED IN A SEPARATE COMMUNICATION AND I REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT FOR THIS PURPOSE TO PROVIDE THE SPECIFIC LANGUAGE TO BE USED. THIS IS BECAUSE MR. ORTIZ, ALTHOUGH ALSO FALSELY ACCUSED OF CIA AFFILIATION, WAS IN FACT INCLUDED IN THE GOP'S REQUEST FOR THE EXPULSION OF CERTAIN EMBASSY OFFICERS.
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